Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group Meeting

Wednesday 5th December 2012,

GCVSDPA Office, Lower Ground Floor, 125 West Regent Street,

Glasgow, G2 2SA **Tel: 0141 229 7730**

http://maps.google.co.uk/maps/place?q=G2+2SA&hl=en&ftid=0x4888442748beda7b:0xf5b86e716dd8b2c0 Please note this is a basement office.

Agenda

		Time	Lead
1	**Welcome and Apologies**	10:30	Isabel Glasgow
2	**Minutes and Action Points from last meeting**	10:35	IG
3	**Marine Planning Partnership structure and governance paper** ➢ Update	10:45	IG/Ian Bray
4	**National Planning Framework 3** (paper attached)	10:55	John Esslemont
5	**Project updates** ➢ Biosecurity Plan implementation ➢ Community mapping ➢ Landscape Seascape Assessment ➢ Marine Litter	11:15	Sarah Brown
6	**Presentation** ➢ Mapping Recreational Access	11:35	Laurin McDowell/Sarah Brown
7	**Clydebreakers winter 2012** ➢ Input for articles	11:50	SB
8	**Update from Core Group members**	12:00	ALL
9	**Any Other Business**	12:45	ALL
10	**Future Meeting Date**	13:00	ALL
	Close and Lunch	**13:15**	

Minutes

Firth of Clyde Forum, Core Group Meeting 5th Dec 2012

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PRESENT	APOLOGIES
Isabel Glasgow (IG) FoCF Chair	Archie MacFarlane (AMacF) Clyde Fishermen's Association
Ian Bray (IB) SNH	Rebecca Dean (RD) Scottish Salmon Company
Toby Wilson (TW) RSPB	Ian White (IW) HMNB Clyde
Roger Horne (RH) Clydeport	Phillip Cowie (PC) UMBSM
John Esslemont (JE) Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan	
Paul Bancks (PB) The Crown Estate	
Rhona Fairgrieve (RF) Scottish Coastal Forum	
Sarah Brown (SB) FoCF	
Deirdre Craddock (DC) GCC	
Ethel-May Abel (EMA) GCC	
Donald McLaren (DMcL) RYAS and CYCA	
Mark Steward (MS) A&BC	
Michelle Carroll (MC) GCVSPJC	

Special Notice: It is with deep regret that the Forum learnt of the sudden loss of Mike Balmforth, President of BMF Scotland and member of the Core Group. Mike began his professional life in the boating sector as a broker with Caledonian Yacht Services. In the 1980's he joined the Clyde Cruising Club and became editor of their annual journal and later the cruising directions. He also became Director of Sail Scotland. At a national level Mike was a valued member of the Crown Estate's stakeholder forum, founder of the Scottish Boating Alliance and editor of Welcome Anchorages.

Mike's enthusiasm and integrity was an inspiration to many and his dedication to improving the recreational boating sector in Scotland means he will be sadly missed. The Firth of Clyde Forum will be sending a representative to Mike's funeral on 13th December and making a donation in his memory to the Chest, Heart and Stroke Foundation.

1) Minutes

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting. New representatives from the RSPB and RYAS were welcomed to the Core Group.

2) Matters Arising

There were no matters arising however it was noted that funding has been confirmed by Marine Scotland for the year 2013-14, this will ensure the existing level of staffing continues.

AP 05/09 1	FM to amend paper with all comments agreed on at meeting	**FM - Done**
AP 05/09 2	IG to liaise with Marine Scotland	**IG - Done**
AP 05/09 3	SB to liaise with TCV and update the job specification to reflect comments.	**SB - Done**
AP 05/09 4	FM to circulate meeting programme	**FM - Done**
AP 05/09 5	SB to send out ID guides	**SB - Done**
AP 05/09 6	SB to submit bid for funds for further identification workshops from SNH	**SB - Done**
AP 05/09 7	SB to contact access officers once the data collection work is complete to assess how the final product could be used.	**SB- Done**
AP 05/09 8	SB to offer to present the date to the local access forums with the volunteer (Laurin McDowell)	**SB- Done**
AP 05/09 9	FM asked for article ideas for the next edition	**ALL- Done**
AP 05/09 10	EMA offered to do a piece on the naming of quays and wharfs	**EMA- Done**
AP 05/09 11	CH agreed to do a piece on the Joint Warrior exercise	**CH- Done**
AP 05/09 12	PC agreed to do a small article on the sunfish sighting	**PC- Done**
AP 05/09 13	RD agree to do a piece on novel methods in aquaculture	**RD- Done**

3) Structure and Governance

The paper circulated prior to the last meeting on structure and governance has been welcomed by Marine Scotland but a number of questions pertaining to the detail within the Clyde remain and it is likely that the business plan, to be agreed with MS, for the next year will focus on answering these questions.

Particular questions which need to be addressed:

- Staffing arrangements, number and type of staff, hosting arrangements, line management and work planning.
- Structure of the delegate, number and type of people on the delegate, funding and reporting arrangements, terms of reference etc.
- Organisational capacity, ie availability of people to engage meaningfully with consultations.

It was noted at the meeting that the Forum must focus on the issues particular to the Clyde.

Action Point: The Forum to identify the key topics for further discussion. SB to canvas for a date in late January for the subgroup to meet, all interested core group members are welcome. DONE

4) National Planning Framework

National Planning Framework (NPF) is moving into a round of consultation before the production of NPF3. The NPF will set out the framework for the key national development projects for the next 20 years. It is assumed that NFP3 will have a more coastal remit and encourage more spatial planning. The priorities for the NFP are very much aligned to the Governments principles of sustainable development and there is also a fit with the ethos and thinking behind the Clyde Spatial Marine Plan. An opportunity exists to have the work of the Forum recognised and marine planning to be highlighted in the new NFP.

Action Point: John Esselmont to lead on submitting a proposal for the Clyde to be recognised as a 'National Development' by 14th December. Interested members of the core group are welcome to be involved but the short time scale should be noted. DONE

5) Project Updates

The papers were taken as read. Questions were raised on the following:

- Landscape/Seascape – It is important to ensure that a regional perspective is included in the final document. Agreed.
- Community Mapping – Clyde Breakers back issues should be sent out to the new database to expand our mailing list, especially to Community Councils.

Action Point: SB Will be done at next mailing

- Marine Litter – Further engagement with Area Advisory Group is necessary to ensure that marine and coastal litter issues are dealt with by all Local Authorities in the Clyde. There are opportunities to build this into the second round of River Basin Management Plans.

Action Point: SB DONE

The core group noted that the quality and quantity of work by the staff has been impressive. The staff acknowledged their appreciation of the work to date.

6) Recreational Access

SB introduced Laurin McDowell who has been volunteering with the Forum since the late summer. She has completed approximately 25 days surveying the coast for recreational access points. The survey has been done by car, boat and on foot and on-line.

Laurin presented her methodology for data collection and highlighted issues of assessing 'status' and 'amount of use' . SB then showed how the database created is used in a GIS system.

The core group were pleased with the progress of the work and thanked Laurin for her time and professional approach to the task.

Action Point: SB to continue to liaise with access officers and relevant recreational clubs. DONE

Action Point: SB/LMcD to add web links where possible. Ongoing

Action Point: SB to discuss the 'status' heading with access officers and ensure that it is a useful dataset. Consider adding a caveat that clarifies what 'status' refers to. Ongoing

Action Point: SB to ensure there is a point of contact where landowners can request for their private access point to be removed from the data set. Ongoing

7) Clyde Breakers

SB asked the Core Group members to send any article ideas over Christmas and into the New Year.

Action Point: SB to investigate the possibility of including libraries in the circulation list for Clyde Breakers. DONE

Action Point: Laurin to write a story on her work on recreational access Requested

Action Point: Paul Bancks to supply an article on mooring maintenance. Requested

8) Core Group Updates

RSPB (TW) – There has been concern about disturbance of birds by recreational users of the Clyde.

Action Point: SB to ensure that any conservation designations are included in the access database. Can be downloaded as a layer from SNH

SNH (IB) – The Marine Protected Area (MPA) process is on-going. The MPA proposed sites report has been submitted to Scottish Ministers and a public consultation is expected towards the summer 2013. SNH is advising that the proposals should not go for public consultation until the data confidence report and management options are available.

RYAS/Clyde Yacht Clubs Association (DMcC) – Scottish Enterprise have been working with three groups in the Clyde to create opportunities for sailing tourism. SB reported that she had a meeting with the co-ordinator of this work recently and the Core Group recommended that we continue to support the development of this work.

Action Point: SB to progress opportunities with Thomas McGonigle. DONE – see article

CYCA and RYAS are continuing to develop better links with the Malin Waters programme.

GCVSDPA (MC) –Background work to the second Strategic Development Plan has begun. SEPA is engaged with coastal issues. The Green Network is focused on data gathering at the moment. A cross Glasgow and Clyde Valley assessment of wind resource is being undertaken. The first meeting regarding urban health and access is to be called shortly. There is a strong emphasis that the 'green' and the 'blue' need to work together.

Argyll and Bute Council (MS) – The Local Development Plan and the Draft Coastal Plan are scheduled for consultation in January. The Council have almost finished the Aquaculture Policy and it is planned that it will become more spatial over time.

They are awaiting the outcome of a Coastal Communities Fund bid for a sea kayak trail taking in access points in Crinan, Toward, Helensburgh and Dunoon .

The Council is also actively looking for good projects to support under the FLAG programme.

Action Point: Core Group members to send ideas for projects to MS

Clydeport (RH) – There has been good publicity associated with the increase in cruise ships this year but they have reached capacity for now. Last year was exceptionally busy but this year seems to be similar with increase in construction traffic from renewable energy projects.

Ayrshire Joint Planning (JE) – Also looking for good FLAG projects to support. The renewables pre-consultation search areas have raised some interesting issues about cumulative effects of wind farms. A new officer has been appointed for the Central Scotland Green Network, the tri-council chordate is due to be signed imminently.

Glasgow City Council (EMA) – an update was circulated in writing at the meeting (see attached). Attention was drawn to the Local Plan which is to go to committee and consultation shortly. A question has also been raised about the benefits of having a separate Glasgow Harbour Authority and this is being proposed as a National Development project under the NPF.

Crown Estate (PB) – Working with Clydeport and the Clyde Moorings Committee on 2 areas in the Clyde where there have been difficulties tracing the owners of some moorings. Moorings have been removed under civil proceedings.

Action Point: PB to write an article for the next edition of Clyde Breakers.

Scottish Coastal Forum (RF) – The SCF held their annual plenary meeting on 5th Oct which was well attended and included discussions about structure and governance focusing on the paper produced by the FOCF. The meeting was generally supportive of the recommendations in the paper and emphasised the following aspects:

- The need for significant thought to go into employment structures to ensure that we are not creating more quangos.
- The need for members of the delegate to be impartial, broadminded and strategic thinkers.
- It may be better to 'plannerise' mariners than to try to marinise planners.

The second generation of River Basin Management Plans gives a good opportunity to integrate coastal issues and support for the Clyde AAG is advised.

The latest version of the National Marine Plan is going to Ministers shortly and it is planned to go for consultation in the summer of 2013.

The boundaries for the marine regions have not yet been agreed however the data points have recently been streamlined and it is hoped this will expedite the process and the boundaries will be published in the new year.

The interactions matrix report is due to be published shortly, it shows a range of approaches and demonstrates the need for clear definitions of 'conflict'.

9) AOB

Information on Seachangers was circulated at the meeting at their request. http://www.sea-changers.org.uk/index.php

Action Point: SB to write article on SeaChangers for next edition of Clyde Breakers. DONE

Information regarding the Biomara project was circulate to the members after an exploratory meeting where they indicated their wish to introduce laminara as a crop in the Clyde. http://www.biomara.org/

SB noted that she had been asked by SNH to investigate the possibility of submitting a bid for work to assess the impact of sea level rise on habitats in the Clyde. Members noted the work already done by the Ayrshire Councils, Glasgow Council and SEPA.

Action Point: SB to submit a bid by Friday 7th Dec. DONE

Date of Next meeting – SB to canvass for dates in April. A structure and governance subgroup meeting to be held in January. DONE